Claims

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- 1. A method for estimating the position of a movable device in a borehole, the method comprising the steps of:
- (a) providing a prior location probability distributionassociated with a first position of the device in the borehole,
 - (b) providing a measurement of a putative distance moved by the device and/or a measurement of a characteristic of the surroundings of the device, the or each measurement being associated with movement of the device to a subsequent position in the borehole, and
 - (c) calculating a posterior location probability distribution associated with the subsequent position, the posterior location probability distribution being conditional on the prior location probability distribution, and the or each measurement.
 - 2. A method according to claim 1, wherein steps (a) to (c) are repeated for further positions of the device, the posterior location probability distribution of one repeat becoming the prior location probability distribution of the following repeat.
 - 3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the borehole is a hydrocarbon well borehole.
- 4. A method according to claim 1, wherein the device is a borehole logging tool.
 - 5. A method according to claim 1, wherein the device is a drill string bottom hole assembly.

- 6. A method according to claim 1, wherein at step (b) a measurement of the putative distance moved by the device is provided.
- 7. A method according to claim 6, wherein the device comprises an odometer which measures the putative distance.
 - 8. A method according to claim 1, wherein at step (b) a measurement indicating whether the device is adjacent to a borehole casing collar is provided.
- 9. A method according to claim 1, wherein at step (b) a

 10 measurement of the amount of gamma-rays emanating from the

 surrounding rock formation is provided.
 - 10. A method according to claim 1, wherein the representation of probability distribution resulting from at least one measurement is not zero-mean Gaussian.
- 15 11. A method according to claim 10, wherein a Kalman filter is used to process measurements with zero-mean Gaussian distribution and a grid distribution or particle filter is used to process measurements with non zero-mean Gaussian distribution.
- 20 12. A computer system operatively configured to perform the method of claim 1.